## REMARKS

In the Office Action, Claims 1-19, 21-35 and 37 were examined. Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 8, 11-13, 15, 17, and 18 are rejected. Claims 4, 6, 9, 10, 14, 16, 19, and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of the based claim and any intervening claims. Claims 21-31, 33-35, and 37 are allowed. In response, Claims 1 and 11 are amended, Claims 9 and 19 are cancelled and no claims are added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of pending Claims 1-19, 21-35 and 37 in view of the amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing Claims 21-31, 33-35 and 37. Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for recognizing the allowability of such claims.

The Examiner has objected to Claims 4, 6, 9-10, 14, 16, and 19-20 for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of the based claim and any intervening claims. In response, Claims 1 and 11 are amended to incorporate the allowable claim features of Claims 9 and 19, respectively.

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## **CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending (1) are in proper form, (2) are neither obvious nor anticipated by the relied upon art of record, and (3) are in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be useful in moving the application forward to allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR, & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 12 10 0 -

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being submitted electronically via EFS Web on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Flaire IX

Date

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